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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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File: [REDACTED] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date: NOV 14 2006
EAC 04 142 52272

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



Petition: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as a Member of the Professions Holding an Advanced Degree or an Alien of Exceptional Ability Pursuant to Section 203(b)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(2)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, Vermont Service Center, denied the nonimmigrant visa petition. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i) provides that the affected party must file the complete appeal within 30 days of after service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(7) indicates that an application or petition is not properly filed until received with the required filing fee.

The record indicates that the director issued the decision on September 13, 2005. It is noted that the director properly gave notice to the petitioner that he had 33 days to file the appeal. The appeal was received by Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) *with fee* on November 23, 2005, or 71 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the service center director. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The director declined to treat the late appeal as a motion and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected.

Moreover, on appeal, the petitioner merely stated that he would submit a brief and/or evidence to the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) within 30 days. As of this date, nearly one year later, the AAO has received nothing further. The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(v), provides that an appeal shall be summarily dismissed if the party concerned fails to identify specifically any erroneous conclusion of law or statement of fact for the appeal. The petitioner here has not specifically addressed the reasons stated for denial and has not provided any additional evidence. He has not even expressed disagreement with the director's decision. Thus, even if the appeal were considered timely, it would be summarily dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.